NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

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For Immediate Release

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Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on May 14, 2004, **JAMES ROBERT WEBB**, **JR.**, age 36, of Thebes, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in Benton for possession of stolen firearms and being a felon in possession of a firearm. **WEBB** pled guilty to both offenses on February 13, 2004. **WEBB** was sentenced to 96 months' imprisonment, 3 years' supervised release, and fined \$200.

At the time of the guilty plea, the parties stipulated that, on October 7, 2003, officers of the Marion, Illinois, Police Department were notified of a residential burglary in which several firearms were stolen, in addition to other items. Officers eventually learned that the residential burglary had been committed by **WEBB** and other individuals, who later disposed of the firearms and other items taken from the residence. Two rifles and a pistol stolen from the residence were recovered.

The Marion, Illinois, Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives conducted the investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Angela Scott handled the case.